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## Issues of Quran Reading Competency in Fulfilling Quran Reading Habit Formation Among Students of Islamic Education Subjects

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### Abstrak

Pendidikan merupakan upaya untuk menciptakan lingkungan belajar dan proses pembelajaran agar peserta didik aktif dalam mengembangkan potensi diri mereka. Pentingnya pendidikan terletak pada fungsinya sebagai proses pembelajaran yang berlangsung sepanjang kehidupan, dimulai dari masa kecil hingga dewasa, dengan tujuan untuk meningkatkan pengetahuan dan mengembangkan potensi individu. Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk mengidentifikasi permasalahan terkait kompetensi membaca Al-Quran dalam memenuhi kebiasaan membaca Al-Quran, serta untuk menemukan solusi dalam mengatasi permasalahan tersebut pada peserta didik mata pelajaran Pendidikan Agama Islam. Jenis penelitian ini adalah kualitatif dengan pendekatan deskriptif. Metode pengumpulan data yang digunakan adalah wawancara, dokumentasi, dan observasi. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa salah satu solusi dalam mengatasi problematika kompetensi membaca Al-Quran dalam memenuhi kebiasaan membaca Al-Quran pada peserta didik mata pelajaran Pendidikan Agama Islam adalah melaksanakan pembiasaan membaca Al-Quran sebelum memulai pelajaran, misalnya dengan membaca Al-Quran selama 15 menit sebelum pembelajaran dimulai. Selain itu, di SMA PGRI Pagar Alam juga terdapat kegiatan rohis yang dilakukan setiap hari Jumat dengan bimbingan langsung untuk membantu peserta didik dalam membaca dan menulis Al-Quran.

Kata Kunci: *Kompetensi Al-Quran, Peserta Didik, Pendidikan Agama Islam*

## Abstract

Education is an effort to create a learning environment and learning processes so that students are active in developing their potential. The importance of education lies in its function as a lifelong learning process, starting from childhood to adulthood, with the aim of increasing knowledge and developing individual potential. The purpose of this research is to identify issues related to Quran reading competency in fulfilling the habit of Quran reading, as well as to find solutions to these issues in students of Islamic Education subjects. This research is qualitative with a descriptive approach. Data collection methods used are interviews, documentation, and observation. The results show that one solution to the problem of Quran reading competency in fulfilling the habit of Quran reading in students of Islamic Education subjects is to cultivate the habit of reading the Quran before starting the lesson, for example, by reading the Quran for 15 minutes before the lesson begins. Additionally, at SMA PGRI Pagar Alam, there is also a rohis activity conducted every Friday with direct guidance to assist students in reading and writing the Quran.

*Keywords: Al-Quran Competency, Islamic Education, Student*

## INTRODUCTION

Education is a conscious and planned effort to create a learning atmosphere and learning process so that students actively develop their potential to have spiritual strength, self-control, noble character, intelligence, and skills needed for themselves, society, nation, and state. According to Ki Hajar Dewantara, education is the demand for children's growth. The purpose of education is to guide all the natural strengths present in children so that they, as humans and as members of society, can achieve the highest level of safety and happiness (Desi Pristiwati, 2022 : 1). Education is not only seen as a means of providing information and skills, but it is also an individual's effort to realise their desires and needs until they are achieved. Education is not just a preparation for the future but also the lives of children who are currently experiencing their development towards adulthood.

The first education comes from our family environment, school environment, and community environment. Education here refers not only to general education but also to Quranic education because Quranic education is crucial and should be provided by parents to children from an early age or during childhood. When we teach something good, we will get good results, and similarly, during that time, they will easily absorb the Quran because the Quran is a guide for our lives.

The Quran is the word of Allah revealed to Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) through the angel Gabriel and conveyed to mankind to serve as guidance in this world. The Quran is a source or guide for the lives of Muslims, aiming for happiness in both the worldly life and the hereafter. Reading the Quran is considered an act of worship, especially if we

can understand and practice its teachings daily. The ability to read the Quran is also related to the performance of other acts of worship, such as the Salah (prayer). In Salah, there are recitations such as Surah Al-Fatihah and others, so those who can read the Quran will find it easier to memorise these recitations for Salah. Therefore, the ability to read the Quran is highly significant because it is an individual obligation (Fardhu 'ain). The first verse of the Quran revealed to Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) emphasises the importance of knowledge by commanding to read (iqra') as the key to knowledge (Masykur, 2021: 73). In today's era, it is common to encounter individuals in society who are not fluent in reading the Quran, cannot read the holy book Al-Quran, or have never studied it at all. On the other hand, there is still a phenomenon in the environment of SMA PGRI Pagar Alam schools where some students cannot read the Quran fluently, including recognising the letters, understanding Tajweed rules, or grasping the length and shortness of Quranic recitations.

The habituation method can be used to instil in students the Islamic teachings in their thoughts, attitudes, and actions. The habituation method, also known as creating habits or behaviours in students, involves repetitive actions performed daily until they become ingrained and remembered by the students. This ensures that students can perform these actions efficiently without needing reminders. This demonstrates that habituation is a learned behaviour acquired through repeated practice, ultimately becoming a habit performed automatically.

## RESEARCH METHOD

This research employs a qualitative and descriptive approach (Field Research). The sample in this study consists of classes that utilise the Card Sort learning method. Data collection techniques include interviews, observations, documentation, and tests.

## RESULT AND DISCUSSION

### Learning Problem

The challenges in learning are part of the learning process itself. Learning encounters various issues and challenges. Learning challenges are problems that disrupt, hinder, complicate, or even lead to failure in achieving learning objectives. These challenges can be traced back to the basic process of learning. In general, the learning process can be traced to factors influencing the learning process (Ahmad, dkk, 2021: 13).

In Islamic religious education, numerous challenges often hinder achieving goals to the fullest extent. These issues encompass various aspects that pose problems within education. (Susiana, 2017: 74).

## Student Problem

As students are prepared to achieve goals, they are guided, taught, and trained to enhance their beliefs, understanding, appreciation, and experience of Islamic teachings. The problems encountered by students result in sluggish learning, which constitutes challenges in Islamic religious education. These include, Firstly, characteristics of psychological abnormalities. Secondly, attributes of cognitive abnormalities. Thirdly, there are characteristics of motivational abnormalities. Fourthly, characteristics of interaction abnormalities (emotional and social).

## Teacher Problem

Educators in schools, commonly referred to as teachers, are one of the factors influencing the quality of education. Experts assert that, no matter how good an official curriculum is, its outcomes depend greatly on what teachers do outside and inside the classroom (actual).

As a profession, the duties of teachers encompass educating, instructing, and training. Educating involves transmitting and developing life values. Instructing entails imparting and developing knowledge and technology. Meanwhile, training involves developing skills in students. In achieving successful Islamic religious education, it is essential for a teacher to possess good quality. Generally, the factors influencing teacher quality improvement include (a) Orientation towards the profession. A teacher's awareness of their responsibility as an educator will affect the implementation of Islamic religious education; (b) The teacher's health condition. (c) The teacher's economic condition. (d) Teaching experience of the teacher. (e) The educational background of the teacher. The teaching profession is largely determined by the education one receives in preparation. Teachers face several issues, such as problems with instructional media and competencies.

## Reading Al-Quran

### *Reading*

Reading is a challenging activity, influenced by both internal and external factors. Internal factors include literacy, interest, behaviour, talent, motivation, goals, the social and economic circumstances of the family, and the normative form of reading material. External factors include the availability of reading materials, the socioeconomic status of the family, and the normative form of reading material. There is a relationship between internal and external difficulties that contribute to understanding reading materials. (Rustinarsih, 2021: 14). Reading is the act and effort of an individual to acquire information, a method used to establish good communication with oneself or with others by explaining the meaning of the

letters. Meanwhile, Samsu explains that reading is an interactive action to extract and understand the implied meaning in writing. According to Soedarso, reading is a comprehensive activity to understand the text, for example, by using knowledge and imagination, observing, and also remembering to obtain information from the text (Rustinarsih, 2021: 13).

### Al-Quran

Etymologically, "Al-Quran" originates from the Arabic language in the form of an abstract noun derived from the verb "qara'a" (yaqrau - Qur'an), which means "reading." Some scholars argue that the term "Al-Quran" is not derived from "qara'a" but is instead an *ism alam* (name of something) for the noble book, similar to the names of the Torah and the Gospel. This similarity designates it as the name of the Holy Book revealed to Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) (Yasir, 2016: 1).

### Islamic Education

According to Ngalim Purwanto (Kariyanto, 2023: 47), education is the deliberate guidance provided by adults to children in their physical and spiritual growth so that they become beneficial to themselves and society. Hasan Langgulung defines education as the process of transferring values in a society to every individual within it, and this transfer of cultural values is accomplished through teaching and indoctrination.

Islamic education is an effort to guide and develop human potential optimally so that they can become loyal servants of Allah, based on and considering the background differences of individuals, level of effort, gender, and respective environments (Kariyanto, 2023: 48).

According to Zakiyah Daradjat, she explains that Islamic religious education is an effort to nurture and cultivate students so that they can always understand the teachings of Islam comprehensively. Then, internalise its teachings' purpose, ultimately leading to practising and making Islam a way of life (Habiburrahman, 2022: 4).

Islamic education is a conscious effort to prepare students to believe in, understand, internalise, and practice Islam through guidance, direction, or training while considering the demand to respect other religions in harmony to ensure religious communities in society can realise national unity (Oktaviani, 2021: 33).

### Discussion

Students who cannot read the Quran during the learning process should be guided, given input, mentored, and taught so that reading the Quran becomes an obligation for

them to learn and understand because the Quran is a guide for human life. Overcoming this issue involves teaching, providing examples, and guiding the students. It's essential to ensure they can read the Quran, especially since only a few Islamic education lessons are provided at school. Therefore, students should be encouraged to learn at home by practising reading the Quran with a teacher, religious teacher, or their parents who can read the Quran. The approach to addressing students' difficulties in reading the Quran involves teaching, providing examples, and giving guidance to encourage learning at home with a teacher, religious teacher, or parents who can read the Quran.

## CONCLUSION

Based on the above discussion, it can be concluded that the problem of Quranic reading competency in fulfilling the habit of reading the Quran is that students struggle with reading the Quran and understanding its pronunciation, influenced by factors such as internet or smartphone usage and lack of Quranic recitation at home or with a Quran teacher.

The solution implemented by Islamic Education teachers to address the problem of Quranic reading competency in fulfilling the habit of reading the Quran for Islamic Education students is to have students practice reading the Quran before starting the lesson, dedicating the first 15 minutes of class to Quranic reading. At SMA PGRI Pagar Alam, religious activity is held every Friday, with direct guidance for Quranic reading and writing by appointed mentors.

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